



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Masashi MIMA et al.

Serial No.: 10/067,547

Group Art Unit: 1774

Filed: February 7, 2002

Examiner: Merrick L. Dixon

For: STRETCHABLE CONVEYOR BELT AND  
METHOD OF PRODUCING SAME

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

RECEIVED  
U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

DEC 10 2003  
TC 1774

Sir:

Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

OR

No item of information in the Information Disclosure Statement filed, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more

than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

PARKHURST & WENDEL, L.L.P.



Roger W. Parkhurst  
Registration No. 25,177

December 8, 2003

Date

Attorney Docket No.: YOSH:002

Attachment:  
Information Disclosure Statement

PARKHURST & WENDEL, L.L.P.  
1421 Prince Street, Suite 210  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314-2805  
Telephone: (703) 739-0220

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Masashi MIMA et al.

Serial No.: 10/067,547

Group Art Unit: 1774

Filed: February 7, 2002

Examiner: Merrick L. Dixon

For: STRETCHABLE CONVEYOR BELT AND  
METHOD OF PRODUCING SAME

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

RECEIVED  
DEC 10 2003  
TC 1700

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of each of the references listed on Form PTO-1449 are attached.

The references cited herein were cited in a Japanese Office Action on September 24, 2003 issued in a corresponding Japanese patent application.

A concise explanation of the relevance of the cited references, as authored by applicants' Japanese representatives, is attached hereto.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office may, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 C.F.R. 1.104(a) and 1.106(b) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that these references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

Respectfully submitted,

PARKHURST & WENDEL, L.L.P.



Roger W. Parkhurst  
Registration No. 25,177

December 8, 2003  
Date

RWP/ame

Attorney Docket No.: YOSH:002

PARKHURST & WENDEL, L.L.P.  
1421 Prince Street, Suite 210  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314-2805  
Telephone: (703) 739-0220

*\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.*

PATENT ATTORNEY  
KAZUO YOSHIDA, M.S.(CHEM)

**YOSHIDA PATENT OFFICE**

DAIICHI CHISAN-BUILDING  
1-3, TSUBAKI-CHO,  
NAKAMURA-KU, NAGOYA  
453-0015 JAPAN

TEL: 052-451-9300  
FAX: 052-451-9281  
Email:JZC01650@nifty.ne.jp

**CONCISE EXPLANATION OF RELEVANCE OF  
NON-ENGLISH DOCUMENTS**

**1) JP Utility Model 49-42678 (Application No. 47-084815)**

This document relates to a belt for a belt conveyor. The belt includes a bellows portion that is stretchable in a lengthwise direction thereof.

**2) JP-A 55-44195**

This document relates to an endless flexible belt having a plurality of cuts formed at intervals in a lengthwise direction thereof.

**3) JP Utility Model 47-10288 (Application No. 46-13434)**

This document relates to a conveyor flexible belt having an intermediate layer formed of a steel.

**4) JP-A 10-139120**

This document relates to a conveyor belt that can be run while being curved in a three-dimensional space. The belt includes a core layer 2 formed of fibers.

**5) JP-A 53-18182**

This document relates to a conveyor belt whose widthwise opposite end portions are stretchable in a lengthwise direction thereof.

**6) JP-A P2000-169066**

This document relates to a person conveyor belt that can be run at variable speeds. The belt has transverse rigid members.

**7) JP Utility Model 55-109609 (Application No. 54-69996)**

This document relates to an endless belt and an endless chain fixed to a back surface of the belt.